



DONALD HISTORY
& NATURAL HISTORY GROUP



BULOKE BULLETIN NO. 266. NOVEMBER 2018

Enquiries for October: Ted and Maryke Giliam from Leongatha called at the archives. Ted is a diesel Engineer and was involved in the restoration of the original Donald Flour mill “Ruston12H motor engine”. The engine is now located in the Glen Valley, Victorian High Country.

Pierina Marino visited Donald one weekend. She is the daughter of Ezio Viola. George and Ezio Viola were in Donald from 1956-1959. George ran the Royal Café in McCulloch St (now part of Woods St Café) and then moved to the small shop next to Crone’s butcher shop at 54 Woods St (now “Trendz” Shoe Shop). Pierina has requested any information on the brothers’ time in Donald.

Alan & Helen Prentice rang requesting any information on the Bull and Scown families. They then called at the archives a few weeks later

Bob Smith, former DHS teacher 1968-1971, called into the Archives. Not to be confused with Bobby Smith who taught at DPS about the same time.

Paul Sweeney is the grandson of the original proprietors of the Shamrock Hotel in Donald. He emailed asking for any photo and documents on the Sweeney family. We had five and duly sent them off. John Sweeney from the Dairy farm corner and Mary (Todd) Loughery, Donald baker and confectioner, were siblings of his grandfather, Patrick Sweeney.

Lisa Coad visited the Archives and wanted information on the Gildea family who were in the Central Café in 1947. The Central Café was where the new Workco office is now situated. It was demolished in about 1996.

Dean Case wrote from California for a copy “Cream of Corack”, which he saw on the Bulletin on the website. Dale Conway wanted information on John Gustave Wilkinson, WW1 soldier. Brian Lane, great grandson of Original Carron selector, Morgan Lane, asking for photographs of his family. We had none.

Blasts from the Past – November 1918.

November 5. On Saturday last the annual Flower Day, in connection with the Donald H.E. School, was held. The proceeds were in aid of the local Repatriation Fund and a profit of around 100 pounds is expected.

November 8. The crops around Watchem and Litchfield are looking well considering the long dry spell. The early sown wheat sown on fallow land, where care in working up the soil has been exercised, are exceptionally good and an average yield of about 4 to 5 bags is expected.

November 12. It is officially announced that the Imperial Government has acceded to the request that Anzac troops be used to garrison the surrendered Turkish forts in Gallipoli.

November 15. Peace Celebrations. Jubilant Demonstrations. Great Rejoicing. When the news that the Allies' armistice terms had been signed was received in Donald at about 9.30 on Monday night, the fire and church bells were immediately rung and whistles at the local railway station were blown, with the result that a large crowd assembled and marched the streets, headed by the local brass band.

Speaking at the peace celebrations at the show grounds on Tuesday Major Header said he was surprised at the bitter feeling of sectarianism which existed in Australia since his return. He deplored this state of affairs. No such feeling existed at the front, where boys of every nationality and creed fought side by side in common cause. All denominations were well represented and he gave figures to emphasise his words. He was sorry sectarianism was so rife in Australia and urged his hearers to stamp it out.

November 18. It is reported that asbestos has been found in the Mallee scrub near Kaniva, and that the samples submitted to the Government Analyst have been declared first-class with regard to fibrous and fireproof qualities. The best samples were discovered at a depth of nearly 100 feet from the surface.

November 19. Donald Police Court. Chas. Markle, inspector under the Vermin Destruction Act, proceeded against W. McDonald for failing to destroy rabbits on his property. Fined 40 s with 30 s costs. *(Four similar cases followed)*

November 22. So far the only severe forms of influenza yet experienced by the Quarantine Department is on the New Zealand trading steamer *Atua* now in quarantine in Sydney. Two additional deaths have occurred, the victims being stewards, making six in two days and two fresh cases have been reported making a total of 82 or half the vessel's complement.

November 29. The Defence Department has invited quotations for the supply of 50,000 medals and bars, to be issued to the next of kin of fallen soldiers.

ARCHIVES ANNUAL REPORT Three archivists replaced Lil Kirk this year. They were Ann Dunstan, Mary Archbold and Anne Walsh and the Archives were open from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Between them 116 enquiries were dealt with by letter, phone and email. Our volunteers Florence Breed, Dorothy Warner, Colleen Raynes and Jenni Campbell were also often on hand to help with enquiries as well as continuing the entries into the Donald Times Index. It has been a great team effort.